

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 XMB-04 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01
AID-05 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 H-02
HA-05 PA-02 /068 R

DRAFTED BY AF/S:MACHISEK LK
APPROVED BY AF/S:DKEOGH
-----013140 220713Z /21

P 220158Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY
AMCONSUL DURBAN PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 102883

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, BEXP, SF, US

SUBJECT: HOUSE BANKING COMMITTEE ON EXIM

REF: STATE 96523

1. ON APRIL 20, HOUSE BANKING COMMITTEE DEFERRED UNTIL APRIL 26 VOTE ON WHETHER OR NOT TO MAINTAIN TSONGAS AMENDMENT TO THE EXIM REAUTHORIZATION BILL.
2. COMMITTEE REJECTED (38-6) AMENDMENT PROPOSED BY REP. KELLY WHICH WOULD PREVENT EXIM FROM DENYING FACILITIES TO SOUTH AFRICA AS LONG AS FACILITIES ARE EXTENDED TO ANY COMMUNIST COUNTRY. DURING DEBATE OVER AMENDMENT THERE WAS HEADED EXCHANGE DURING WHICH KELLY STATED THAT STEVE BIKO'S DEATH MIGHT HAVE REPRESENTED PROGRESS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

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3. REP. BROWN INTRODUCED AMENDMENT THAT WOULD STRIKE TSONGAS AMENDMENT, ARGUING THAT WHILE HE OPPOSED APARTHEID, TSONGAS AMENDMENT WOULD BE EFFECTIVE IN PUNISHING OR CO-ERSING SOUTH AFRICA, SINCE SOUTH AFRICA COULD OBTAIN ANY PRODUCT FROM OTHER SUPPLIERS. HE ALSO ARGUED THAT SUCH A RESTRUCTION WAS INAPPROPRIATE SINCE SOUTH AFRICA WAS

ASSISTING U.S. IN SETTLING THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM; CHAIRMAN

REUSS ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION TO OPPOSE THE BROWN AMENDMENT BECAUSE THE U.S. SHOULD NOT BE FACILITATING EXPORTS TO SOUTH AFRICA WHEN THERE HAS BEEN NO PROGRESS TOWARD MAJORITY RULE. HE THEN ADJOURNED THE HEARING. COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED TO DEFEAT BROWN AMENDMENT WHEN IT RECONVENES ON APRIL 26, AT WHICH POINT REP. HYDE MAY INTRODUCE OTHER AMENDMENTS WHICH WOULD CUT-OFF EXIM ACTIVITY IN ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES THAT ARE REPORTED ;UMAN RIGHTS VIOLATORS.

4. LOBBYIST FOR SOUTH AFRICA FROM THE DEKIEFFER LAW FIRM WERE AT THE HEARINGS AND APPEARED TO BE ASSISTING BROWN AND KELLY. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEES, AMENDMENTS, BANKS, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS, TRADE CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE102883
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MACHISEK LK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780172-0356
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780428/aaaaaxcl.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 551354a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 96523
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2880490
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HOUSE BANKING COMMITTEE ON EXIM
TAGS: ETRD, BEXP, SF, US, XMB
To: PRETORIA CAPE TOWN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/551354a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014